

# ECUMENICAL PRESS SERVICE

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## WCC Proposes Consultation of South African Churches

(Geneva) - The World Council of Churches has proposed to its eight member churches in South Africa that it take the initiative in convening a "fully representative" consultation of their leaders and WCC representatives to seek measures towards reconciliation in the current emergency.

The proposal is put forward in a letter sent on May 12 from World Council of Churches' headquarters in Geneva to the chief officials of the eight bodies. Signers of the letter were the three officers of the world body: Dr. W.A. Visser 't Hooft, general secretary; Dr. Franklin Clark Fry, New York, chairman of its policy-making Central Committee; and Dr. Ernest A. Payne, London, Central Committee vice-chairman.

The proposals for the consultation arose out of conferences held with South African church leaders by WCC associate general secretary Dr. Robert S. Bilheimer during a recent 12-day visit in South Africa. An ordained minister of the United Presbyterian Church in the USA, Dr. Bilheimer made the visit at the request of the WCC officers.

At Geneva WCC headquarters, Dr. Bilheimer said that if the South African churches agree to the proposal, the consultation will probably be held in "early autumn".

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The WCC officers say in their letter, "it is the function of the World Council of Churches to facilitate every opportunity for conversation among its member churches". They add: "It is the genius of the ecumenical movement that fellowship is maintained even when disagreements concern profound and urgent matters. It is through the prayer and the continued search for God's will which are occasioned by such a situation, that our need for each other and our sense of unity deepens and grows."

The letter suggests five "levels" as the "most urgent for ecumenical discussion at this present time". They are:

1. A discussion of the "factual understanding" of the basic factors involved. Because there is "a widely varying knowledge of the facts" and "a difference of interpretation" there must be "an attempt to gain a fresh and more accurate understanding of the objective situation ... "

2. A discussion of steps presently being taken by the South African churches to "help establish that justice and peace of which the Bible speaks" and ways in which these measures can be made known among the member churches in South Africa and other parts of the world.

3. A discussion of "our understanding of the meaning of the Gospel for relationships among the races". The letter quotes a resolution adopted by the WCC's Second Assembly (Evanston, Ill., USA, 1954) in which the Assembly "declares its conviction that any form of segregation based on race, colour, or ethnic origin is contrary to the Gospel, and is incompatible with the Christian doctrine of man and with the nature of the Church of Christ". The letter states: "It is the function of the ecumenical movement to witness to such convictions, and it is the function of the World Council of Churches to continue conversations concerning these with those who disagree with them."

4. A discussion of implications of the rapid social changes in Africa and "the significance of these developments of contemporary history for Christian witness in South Africa".

5. A discussion of the current emergency including an airing of different interpretations of it.

The officers of the World Council had asked Dr. Bilheimer to visit member churches in South Africa before receiving suggestions for an inquiry into the situation made by both the Anglican Archbishop Joost de Blank, of Capetown, and Dutch Reformed leaders.

Dr. Bilheimer noted that the consultation now being proposed by the WCC is not being suggested in response to these, since it has "a broader and different function".

In addition to the letters sent to the leaders of its eight member churches, the WCC officers at the same time sent a second letter to the Anglican Church and to the three Dutch Reformed Churches, in which they note that during Dr. Bilheimer's visit "the desire was expressed that the World Council of Churches invite representatives from the Dutch Reformed Church of the Transvaal, the Dutch Reformed Church of the Cape, the Hervormde Church and the Church of the Province of South Africa (Anglican) to a consultation concerning their relationship with each other and with the WCC".

The WCC officers state in their letter that they are "glad for this initiative which has come to us," and respond by issuing an invitation to such a consultation, with the suggestion that it be held "prior to, but at the same general time" as the larger consultation. The letter adds that "our motive in





doing so is that it is our duty and privilege as officers of the WCC to do all we can to maintain and create fraternal relationships between the member churches". (See page for full text of letter to the 8 member churches)

EPS, Geneva

### World YWCA Takes Stand on Race

(Geneva) - The World YWCA Executive Committee has called upon its National Associations in 66 countries to "support responsible non-violent attempts to ensure equal civil, social and economic rights for all racial groups and to help and support as effectively as possible those amongst their membership who are suffering from racial conflict".

The appeal was made in a resolution adopted at the close of a twelve-day meeting of the 20-member World YWCA Executive Committee at the World Council of Churches' Ecumenical Institute near Geneva. The resolution recalls the recognition in the Association's constitution of "the equal value in God's sight of all human beings" and expresses deep concern at the continuing racial prejudice and discrimination in the world and the recent upsurge of anti-semitism.

The Executive Committee, whose members come from 17 different countries and every continent, also took action with regard to increased financial support for its Refugee Services as a result of World Refugee Year efforts. Funds will be allocated for development of vocational training and integration services among refugees in Austria, the Middle East and Hong Kong.

Among activities planned for the next two years are an All-Africa YWCA Conference to be held in Southern Rhodesia in December 1960, a World Membership Conference in Jamaica in August 1961, and two conferences for leaders on work with youth in Asia in 1962 - one in Malaya and another in the Philippines. International voluntary service, international travel and the development of programme activities related to science education are among the main trends for YWCA programme work on the international level.

The interracial Executive Committee includes three Roman Catholics, a member of the Coptic Church, and Protestants of all denominations. The group joined in common worship every day.

EPS, Geneva

### Baptists Plan European News Network

(Zürich) - A news agency which will tell the world what European Baptists are doing may be established at Rüslikon Baptist Seminary, Zürich, following a move by 60 writers and publishers of the denomination.

From 11 countries, they proposed, during a conference at the Seminary, that a press officer be appointed to organise a wide news network.

The suggestion will go before the American Southern Baptists' Foreign Mission Board, which supports the Seminary, and international Baptist bodies.

Another step in European co-operation was the decision of publishers of the various countries to exchange ideas and books and to make specialised equipment available to each other. Books of common interest will be recommended to all countries concerned for adaptation and publication.

The conference was arranged by Dr. J.D. Hughey, Jr., Professor of Church History at the Seminary, who is from South Carolina.

EPS, Geneva





### Berlin Youth Meeting Seeks New Approach by Church

(Geneva) - An international meeting of Christian youth in Berlin has discussed ways of overhauling the churches' approach to youth and outsiders.

Leaders of the ten-day ecumenical conference, called by the WCC Youth Department and attended by 45 youth leaders from ten countries, reported a strong feeling among youth inside and outside the churches that the Church is "necessary, because of the longing of youth to believe and to belong". But recent soundings made by investigators in East and West Germany, they said, showed that youth tended to despair of the effectiveness of present church structures.

"The trend seems to be to resent insensitive attitudes of pastors and church leaders", said staff members of the World Council of Churches, who helped plan the meeting. "However, youth responds to pioneering projects with small groups and to clubs that try to reach them where they live."

All participants in the Berlin meeting stressed the value of the ecumenical movement and of Bible study in helping to change existing ways of working in the local congregation. A feature of the conference was Bible study along "different" lines. One Bible study session featured individual efforts to write press articles on "Peace" arising out of Paul's Letter to the Ephesians.

"I should prefer to write a book on systematic theology", commented one conference member. "It's easier."

Some participants wanted to modify the old approach of the churches through local parishes and to work through setting up Christian cells in daily life, but most favoured keeping the local church as a base for other Christian approaches on week-days.

According to WCC Youth Department observers there was dissatisfaction among laymen about being treated as "annexes to the pastor" and a recognition that "the laity themselves have a real pastoral job in living and working alongside the people".

The Berlin group agreed to join every day in concrete intercessions for each other and for the churches and the world.

Leaders at the meeting, the ninth in an annual series arranged by the WCC's Youth Department, included Walter Killinger, ecumenical secretary in the Youth Department of the Evangelical Church in Germany, and Pastor Bengt-Thure Molander, a parish priest of the Church of Sweden and former executive secretary of the WCC's Youth Department.

Participants came from all parts of Germany and from Brazil, Belgium, Greece, Italy, New Zealand, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the USA. EPS, Geneva

### Church Concern for South Africa Continues

(Geneva) - Condemnations of apartheid and declarations of solidarity with the churches in South Africa continue in churches all over the world.

In South Africa itself the government has ordered the deportation of Miss Hannah Stanton, a British Anglican missionary detained in Pretoria under the emergency regulations.







The decision to make her leave South Africa was taken by the Minister of Justice, Mr. François C. Erasmus, after attempts by the British government to have her charged or released unconditionally had failed.

The Church of England's Canterbury Convocation, expressing "grave concern" over events in South Africa, declared "the policy of apartheid to be contrary to the purpose of God for His children as understood by the majority of Christian people", called for prayers, and expressed solidarity with the people and churches of South Africa.

Dr. Geoffrey Fisher, Archbishop of Canterbury, who presided at the Convocation, had earlier told a meeting of the Church Missionary Society in London that the Dutch Reformed Churches in South Africa were "gravely impairing their loyalty to Christ" by not speaking out against racial segregation policies.

But the archbishop said the DRC should not be "too readily condemned" for holding views that had been "their group's beliefs implanted in them through many years". Dr. Fisher warned of the danger that when the South African churches were silent "all the churches in South Africa, even Christianity itself, will be supposed by Africans to stand for white domination".

A proposal to break off communion with the Dutch Reformed Churches in South Africa was defeated in the Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of England and found only about six supporters; but the Assembly called on the Dutch Reformed Church to withdraw support of the government's apartheid policy.

In the United States the general board of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, a Negro body, approved a letter to President Eisenhower and Secretary of State Christian Herter calling for an economic boycott against South Africa until that country stopped its segregation and discrimination practices.

EPS, Geneva

#### Italy's Methodists Report Progress

(Rome) - The Methodist Church in Italy has increased its giving by 50% in 1959.

The report of progress was presented to the Synod when it heard of forward moves toward financial independence. Methodist work in the past has been largely supported from the United Kingdom.

In other synod sessions delegates heard of local pastoral co-operation with the Waldensian Church and created a department to train lay preachers.

A delegation from the Waldensian Church, led by Moderator Ermanno Rostan, attended the synod of the church, which will be 100 years old in 1961.

The Rev. Mario Sbaffi was unanimously re-elected by the Methodists as president and general superintendent.

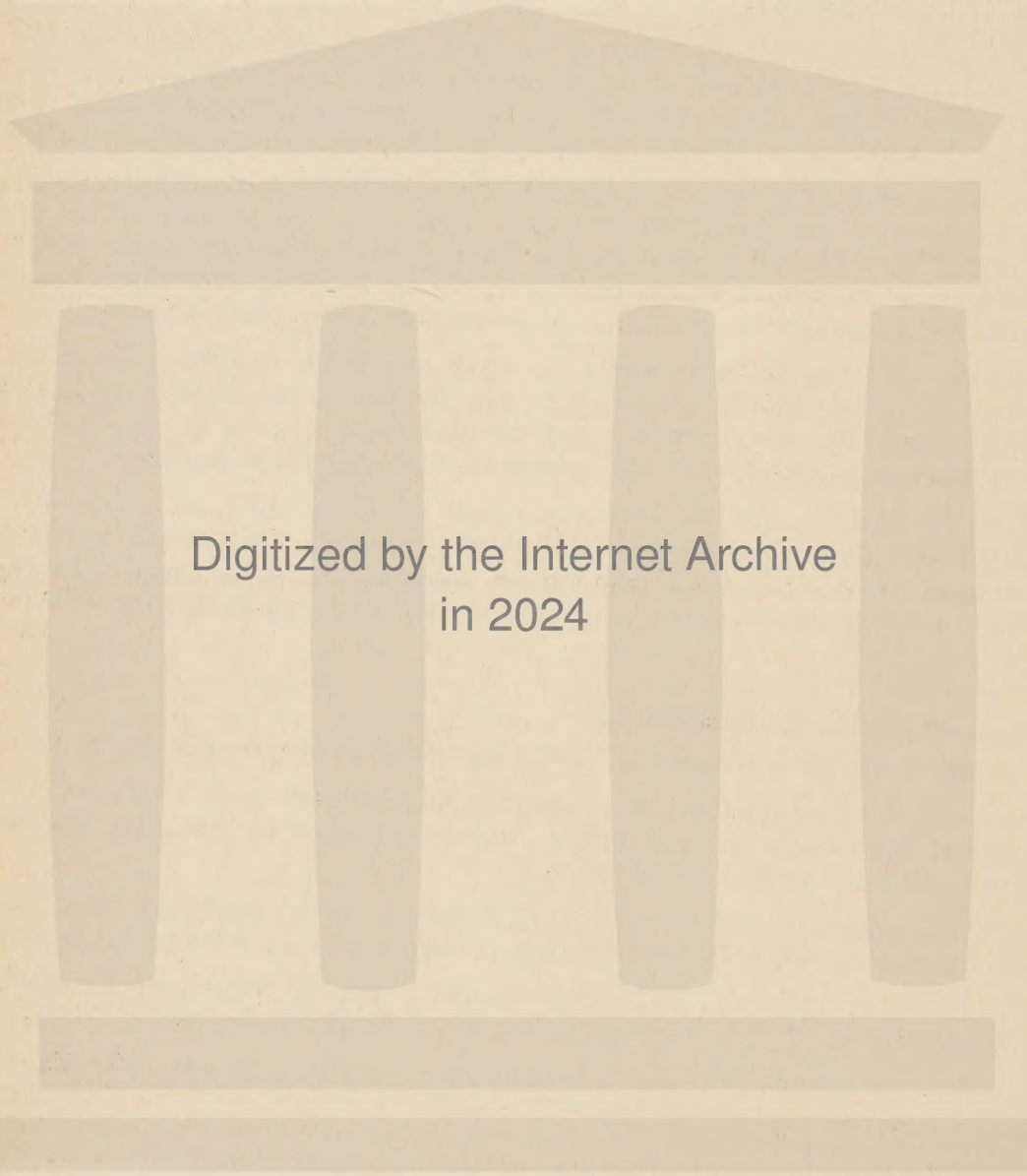
EPS, Geneva

#### Korean Christians Respond in Crisis

(Seoul) - The National Christian Council of Korea has pledged support in national reconstruction after the fall of President Syngman Rhee.

A resolution of the council promises a halt to internal strife in church circles, which led to a split and later reconciliation in the Presbyterian Church this year. (See EPS N°s 2 and 9)

The churches say they hope for closer unity among themselves, as an example to the nation in the new period ahead, in building democracy.



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In another statement the NCC objects to reported condemnation by the small and ultra-conservative American Council of Christian Churches of the US State Department's "interference" in Korean internal affairs at the time of President Rhee's fall.

The NCC says "the attitude taken by the American government in the restoration of democracy in Korea was highly justified and perfectly proper".

Meanwhile the NCC's radio station HLKY has been widely praised for being the only independent station at the time of the rioting and increasing its news coverage of events. HLKY will try to maintain its newly gained prestige by strengthening its news department and adding two hours of broadcasting to its daily schedule if funds become available.

The aim of the expansion will be to ensure public service and accurate coverage during drawing up of a new constitution and the coming elections.

EPS, Geneva

#### Bishop Dibelius Celebrates 80th Birthday

(Berlin) - Bishop Otto Dibelius of Berlin was 80 on May 15. Special services were held in Berlin, preceded by a youth rally on May 14.

From Geneva WCC general secretary Dr. W.A. Visser 't Hooft sent birthday greetings to the bishop as one of the co-presidents of the World Council. Dr. Visser 't Hooft's message observed that the bishop had been active in the ecumenical movement from its beginnings.

Recalling that Bishop Dibelius had helped to draft the report on the Unity of the Church at the Lausanne World Conference on Faith and Order in 1927, Dr. Visser 't Hooft quotes Bishop Dibelius as saying in that report: "God's Pentecostal Spirit intoxicates men and at the same time makes them sober - it makes them intoxicated with sacred hope and sober in considering the next step."

These words are called by the WCC's general secretary "a good summary of the role which you yourself have played in the ecumenical movement".

Other messages of greeting reached Bishop Dibelius from leaders of Church and state in many parts of Germany.

EPS, Geneva

#### Pope Urges Missions to Understand Other Christians

(Rome) - Pope John XXIII has appealed to Roman Catholic missionaries to show more understanding toward their "brethren who bear the name of Christ in their heads and hearts, but are separated from the Catholic Church".

The Pope, addressing the General Council of Papal Missions, said every attempt must be made to break down obsolete ideas and overcome prejudices in creating a favourable atmosphere for "return" to the Church of Rome.

"In this way doors can be opened for the unity of the Church of our Lord Jesus Christ", the Pope declared. He underlined the importance for missions of the forthcoming Ecumenical Council of the Roman Catholic Church.

EPS, Geneva

#### Church Crafts To Be Featured at Munich Fair

(Munich) - This year's Munich Trade Fair, May 11 - 22, includes an international exhibit showing "Church and Craftmanship".





Over 250 sculptors, painters, craft workers and architects from 10 European countries have placed their work on show.

Protestant, Catholic and Anglican artists have filled 200 square metres of exhibition space with 500 works, including plastics, goldsmiths' pieces, leather work, ceiling decoration, metal and plexiglass pulpits and church furnishings in wood.

EPS, Geneva

#### European Industrialists Confer at Bossey

(Geneva) - "What do current economic developments in Europe mean for the growth of a new European society?" was a leading question put to a group of forty-two industrialists and church leaders from 8 European countries, the USA and Ghana last week-end.

They met at the Ecumenical Institute, Bossey, near Geneva, to face up to the coming on the scene of the European economic co-operative enterprises of "the six" and "the seven", to see how church members could be better informed about what the new developments mean, and to try to determine the churches' responsibility.

The industrialists agreed that the churches cannot be enlisted behind any one scheme for economic development, but must come to grips with economic and social unions between nations, which will affect whole social structures.

Other questions asked at the meeting were: How can nationalism be transcended without losing the good elements in a national heritage? If Europe grows richer as a result of economic union how can the new wealth be used for aiding underdeveloped countries as well as European peoples themselves?

The industrial leaders agreed that the new trends called for responsible sacrifice by church members in overcoming unworthy national ambition and helping Europe to do its duty to the world. They advocated closer co-operation of European churches across denominational dividing lines.

Leaders at the meeting included Dr. Max Kohnstamm, adviser to the president of the Euratom Commission in Brussels, Dr. Walter Bauer, chairman of the German group of the European Union for Economic and Social Progress, and Professor K.A. Busia, from Ghana, who is at present lecturing at the Institute of Social Studies at Leyden, Netherlands.

EPS, Geneva

#### East European Churches Effect Economies

(Geneva) - Lutheran churches in Hungary and Poland are merging congregations in a drive to make their work more efficient.

Hungarian Lutheran Bishop Zoltan Kaldy has announced that 25 small local churches with a total membership of 6,670 will be attached to larger churches during the next five-year period. The 25 small groups are at present being subsidised from central church funds.

Similar steps are being taken by the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Poland. An exodus of German-speaking Protestants from Poland since the war has reduced Lutheran church membership from 500,000 to 120,000.

The church plans to merge parishes and reorganise its administration in an effort to cope with its economic problems. The size of many existing buildings is reported to be out of proportion to local needs.

EPS, Geneva





In Brief

Newspaper reports in Britain's "News of the World" and "Sunday Pictorial" featuring "the sexual adventures" of film and stage stars have been called "exploitation of sex" by the Advisory Group on Sex, Marriage and the Family of the British Council of Churches. The Advisory Group has supported condemnation of the reports by the General Council of the Press in the United Kingdom.

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John D. Rockefeller, Junior, the American oil millionaire and philanthropist, who died on May 11, aged 86, included many Christian causes in his gifts. The Ecumenical Institute of the World Council of Churches, Bossey, Switzerland; the World Council's international study on Rapid Social Change and YMCA International Service were among the world-wide Christian projects he supported.

\* \*

Miss Rosamund Essex, editor since 1950 of the "Church Times", independent British Anglican weekly, will retire at the end of August. She will be succeeded by the Rev. Roger L. Roberts, Vicar of the Church of All Hallows, London Wall, and secretary of the Church of England Men's Society.

\* \*

Miss Helen Keller has been made an honorary life member of the American Bible Society to mark the 125th anniversary of the ABS's work with the blind. A plaque presented to Miss Keller, who has been blind and deaf from the age of 19 months and has overcome her disability, says that "insight comes not by the eye nor wisdom by hearing; but from a heart of faith inspired by the Word of God rise truth and love to bless mankind". Miss Keller will be 80 in June.

\* \*

Professor Reinhold Niebuhr will retire at the end of May as professor and vice-president of Union Theological Seminary in New York after 32 years service. He will conduct a weekly seminar during his retirement and undertake research in international affairs at Columbia University. Dr. Niebuhr will be 68 in June.

\* \*

The Christian Council of South Africa has refused to answer a letter from the South African Government's Department of Bantu Development seeking details of church arrangements that place white ministers under the authority of Africans. The Council's secretary, the Rev. A.W. Blaxall, said it had been unanimously decided "to refuse to answer any queries asked in the letter and to point out to the Bantu Administration Department that this is purely a matter for the church administrations involved".

\* \*

The Methodist Church in the USA has abolished a rule that only "innocent parties" in divorces can be remarried in church. New rules adopted by the Methodist's quadrennial General Conference permit remarriage of any divorced person who is aware of what led to the break-up of the previous marriage, intends to make the new marriage Christian and has had time for preparation and counselling. The church also adopted a recommendation calling for ministers to hold premarital conferences with applicants before weddings.

\* \*





Creation of a 35-member commission on ecumenical consultation has been authorised by the General Conference of the Methodist Church in the USA. The new body will be appointed by the church's Council of Bishops and inform Methodists about developments in the ecumenical movement as well as acting as a channel of communication with the World Council of Churches and the National Council of Churches in the USA.

\* \*

Professor Hans Joachim Iwand, professor of Systematic Theology at the Protestant Faculty of Theology, Bonn University, Germany, died after a brief illness on May 3. He was 60 years of age. Dr. Iwand was a member of the Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Germany (EKID) and was active in a number of church organisations, including the Council of Brethren of the East Prussian Confessional Synod, which he served as chairman. He was particularly active in promoting contacts with churches in Eastern Europe and during the Hitler regime had been a leader of the Confessing Church.

\* \*

A plan to shorten the Norwegian Lutheran theological course from seven to five years is currently being considered by the theological faculty of the University of Oslo. Reason for the proposed shortening is to alleviate the country's severe shortage of Lutheran pastors. The national Church has only 20 first-year theological students in this academic year.

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In future all candidates for episcopal office in the Church of Sweden will be expected to be ready to ordain women-pastors, according to Ragnar Edenman, Minister of Religious Affairs in Sweden. Church circles are expected to resist the regulation because it means admission to episcopal office is no longer determined solely by suitability and merit. EPS, Geneva





DocumentA Letter Sent by the World Council of Churches to  
Leaders of its Eight Member Churches in South Africa.

May 12, 1960

To the Member Churches in the Union of South Africa

Dear Brethren in Christ,

We send you greetings in the name of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, and extend to you our assurance of support and fellowship in your witness to His name in these difficult times. We wish to thank you for the cordial and helpful reception which you afforded to our representative, Dr. Robert S. Bilheimer, during his recent visit, and we take this as one among many signs of growing ecumenical fellowship.

Indeed, we regard it as a fundamental characteristic of the ecumenical movement, and the World Council of Churches in particular, that it helps to remove isolation among the churches and creates that conversation in Christ which may lead us all to a deeper fellowship and obedience. As ecumenical conversation progresses, the participants in it are led to register their common convictions from time to time. When this occurs, individuals and sometimes churches may not fully agree with the majority conviction. It is, however, of the genius of the ecumenical movement that fellowship is maintained even when disagreements concern profound and urgent matters. It is through the prayer and the continued search for God's will which are occasioned by such a situation, that our need for each other and our sense of unity deepens and grows. We understand it to be the function of the World Council of Churches to facilitate every opportunity for such conversation among its member churches.

In the present situation, we believe that there are different levels on which our discussion should take place. We mention five, which seem to us to be among the most urgent for ecumenical discussion at this present time:

1. The first is the level of our factual understanding of the situation in South Africa. It is clear that within the member churches in South Africa, and among the churches outside of South Africa, there is a widely varying knowledge of the facts of present conditions. Moreover, there is a difference of interpretation of facts which, we feel, requires that all concerned attempt to gain a fresh and more accurate understanding of the objective situation in which we stand. This understanding, in our opinion, should not be limited to the particular circumstances of the events of the current emergency, but should proceed as far as possible into the basic factors which are now in operation within the total scene.

2. The second is the level of action. We are fully aware that it is the purpose of every member church in South Africa to help establish that justice and peace of which the Bible speaks. We are grateful for a general agreement with the Evanston statement that: "Their calling requires Christians to witness to the Kingship of Christ and the unity of all mankind, and to strive through social and political action to secure justice, freedom, and peace for all, as a foretaste of that kingdom into which the faithful shall be gathered." We can report to you, however, that the concrete steps which the churches in South Africa are taking, within their respective policies, to secure these objectives are simply not known within the ecumenical community, and frequently not sufficiently known among the member churches in South Africa. Information and discussion concerning these matters is therefore urgently needed.





3. A third level concerns our understanding of the meaning of the Gospel for relationships among the races, which is an acute problem not only in South Africa but throughout the world. The general position of the Evanston Assembly as outlined in its report "Intergroup relations: The Church Amid Racial and Ethnic Tensions", which was received by the Second Assembly and commended to the churches, is known to you. We are certain that you understand that this remains as the most authoritative World Council statement on this matter, and that it has not been superseded. Furthermore, you will recall the resolution which was adopted by the Second Assembly, namely:

"Resolution I: The Second Assembly of the World Council of Churches declares its conviction that any form of segregation based on race, colour, or ethnic origin is contrary to the Gospel, and is incompatible with the Christian doctrine of man and with the nature of the Church of Christ. The Assembly urges the churches within its membership to renounce all forms of segregation or discrimination and to work for their abolition within their own life and within society.

"In doing so, the Assembly is painfully aware that, in the realities of the contemporary world, many churches find themselves confronted by historical, political, social, and economic circumstances which may make the immediate achievement of this objective extremely difficult. But under God the fellowship of the ecumenical movement is such as to offer to these Churches the strength and encouragement to help them and individuals within them to overcome these difficulties with the courage given by faith, and with the desire to testify ever more faithfully to our Master."

May we at this point recall the second paragraph of our letter? It is not a part of the nature of the World Council of Churches to pronounce judgments upon churches or nations or people, nor to attempt to enforce convictions which have been crystallized in ecumenical debate. It is the function of the ecumenical movement to witness to such convictions, and it is the function of the World Council of Churches to continue conversations concerning these with those who disagree with them.

4. At the fourth level, we believe that it is important to seek a clearer understanding of contemporary history from a Christian viewpoint. The Evanston Assembly, particularly in its "Report on Social Questions: The Responsible Society in a World Perspective", pointed to the profound and rapid social change taking place in Asia and Africa, and to its importance for Christian witness. This has been confirmed by the extensive World Council study on "Our Common Christian Responsibility Toward Areas of Rapid Social Change", in which there has been such helpful participation by Christians in South Africa. We believe that it is of paramount importance that this rapid social change, which raises for Christian conscience urgent questions of freedom and responsibility, justice and order, in new forms, should continue to be a matter of study, and that the significance of these developments of contemporary history for Christian witness in South Africa should be a matter of ecumenical discussion.

5. The fifth level has to do with our understanding of the current emergency. We know that this has raised questions of the deepest concern to the member churches in South Africa, and we are certain that you recognize that churches throughout the world share in your concern. It has been reported to us that, among Christians in the Union, there are different interpretations of the





meaning of this emergency. We ask therefore that this may be a matter of discussion, in order that we may all come to a better understanding of it.

We welcome the suggestion that has arisen during the course of Dr. Bilheimer's visit with you that the World Council of Churches initiate a consultation to be held within the Union which will give an opportunity at the same time for conversation between representatives of the World Council of Churches and the member churches in South Africa, and for conversation among these member churches themselves. The issues indicated in the above five points, in our opinion, should be among the questions which are discussed at this consultation. Furthermore, we understand that the consultation would be fully representative of the total constituency of the member churches. We would welcome an arrangement whereby specific plans for the consultation would be made by a group consisting of the leaders of the member churches, and a representative of the World Council.

In order to facilitate this meeting, may we request a reply at your earliest convenience as to whether you agree with this initiative of the World Council in arranging for such a consultation? If we may have your reply by May 31, it will assist greatly in making necessary arrangements.

It is our earnest prayer that by such means we may all be given a greater unity in His Spirit, a purpose that is more clearly illumined by His Word, and obedience which is in deeper accord with His will. May His grace be with you.

Sincerely yours,

Franklin Clark Fry  
Chairman of the Central  
Committee

Ernest A. Payne  
Vice-Chairman of the Central  
Committee

W.A. Visser 't Hooft  
General Secretary

